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MINUTEMEN PLAN TO AID GOLDWATER

Rightist Group Maps Active but Clandestine Role

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Special to The New York Times

NORBONE, Mo., July 29—The Minutemen intend to play an active though clandestine role in support of Senator Barry Goldwater during the Presidential campaign.

Robert B. de Pugh, national leader of the militant right-wing organization, said in an interview that members were already working for the Arizonan in a number of ways.

As soon as President Johnson is nominated, he said, Minutemen will seek to infiltrate his campaign headquarters around the country.

Their tasks, he said, will be to sabotage efforts on behalf of the President.

"For example," the soft-spoken young Missourian explained, "a secretary working in a campaign headquarters can fail to tell the boss about an important phone call, can be snotty on the phone to important campaign contributors, can foul up speaking engagements, can fail to find posters for party workers but can find them for people who say they want to help but who she recognizes as fellow saboteurs who will burn them."

Calls Techniques Tested

Mr. de Pugh said the Minuteman had successfully tested such techniques in primary and general election contests in 1962.

The 41-year-old drug manufacturer and nine friends organized the Minutemen to fight Communism in 1961. They have been pointing toward this year's election ever since, Mr. de Pugh said at the organization's headquarters here.

By working first at the precinct and county convention levels, Minutemen were able, according to Mr. de Pugh, to place two dozen members on state delegations to the Republican National Convention in San Francisco.

Mr. de Pugh said he did not mind alerting Johnson forces to the infiltration plans because knowledge of the plans would only make Democratic officials suspicious of loyal workers who made honest mistakes.

Groups of Minutemen are now operating secretly in every county in the United States, Mr. de Pugh said. Their primary emphasis, he continued, is on self-training for guerrilla warfare to restore constitutional government in case the nation is overrun by Communists.

Membership in the Minutemen exceeds the estimate of 25,000 made by law enforcement agencies, Mr. de Pugh asserted. Each band drills secretly at night in simulated combat conditions, and each member fires at least 100 rounds of ammunition annually at target practice, he said.

President Assailed

Mr. de Pugh said it was important to defeat President Johnson because he was "a political opportunist who would sell the United States out to the Communists or anyone else who would pay his price."

Senator Goldwater, he said, is a patriot who would try to stop "the drift toward a socialist police state that has been accelerating under the present Administration."

Mr. de Pugh, leaning forward for emphasis, said a Goldwater election would also mean reduction of Federal spending and of foreign aid and the national debt, strengthened armed forces and improved surveillance of communists.

As President, he said, Mr. Goldwater would support a government in exile, thereby giving the Cuban people renewed hope of overthrowing Communism.

Mr. de Pugh advised Senator Goldwater to take a "stronger right-wing stand than he has."

The Senator should "bear down," he said, on curtailment of the United Nations and on the right of states to find their own solution to such problems as suffrage.

Racial Conflicts

All of today's racial conflicts have been fomented, Mr. de Pugh said, by Communists. He asserted that many Negroes in Mississippi were not yet capable of voting intelligently. If given the opportunity, he said, they would "bankrupt" the state by approving excessive funds for welfare programs and support of illegitimate children.

"This would provide a ready-made opportunity for the Federal Government to take over," he said, adding that the next step would be a Communist take-over because, in his view, the Federal Government is already heavily penetrated by Communists.

The August issue of On Target, the Minutemen's monthly news letter, says that if Mr. Goldwater loses the election, unilateral United States disarmament "will proceed rapidly" until the Soviet Union attains military superiority.

Our national sovereignty will be so diluted by United Nations commitments as to exist in name only," the news letter says.

In common with other far-right organizations, the Minutemen believe the United Nations is a principal instrument for Communist subversion of the United States.

Mr. de Pugh, a tall, dark man, is a university-educated chemist. He is the father of six children.

He writes and edits On Target here in the book-lined office of his Biolab Corporation. The warehouse-like building is in the heart of this tiny farm town of 950 population. Although most of his time is devoted to the work of the Minutemen, Mr. de Pugh makes his living at manufacturing drugs for veterinarians.

"So far as the election is concerned," the On Target article advises Minutemen, "just remember that the strategy of underground warfare is ideally suited to political warfare."

Mr. de Pugh said he would put out a booklet soon to guide Minutemen on further techniques of practical politics that could be effective in the Presidential campaign.

"I would much prefer to win this fight at the ballot box than on the battlefield," he said.

Mr. de Pugh said the Minutemen would soon conduct a national public opinion survey to determine where Mr. Goldwater's chances were so good that aid would be worthwhile.

One thousand members from all parts of the nation will make the survey by telephone, he said.

Tells of Texas Poll

Such a Minuteman survey in Texas determined that former Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker would lose so badly in his recent bid for the governorship, Mr. de Pugh said, that the organization decided to waste no time on that campaign. The ultraconservative Texan ran last in a field of six.

Although the Minutemen are "100 per cent" behind Mr. Goldwater and will work hard for him, Mr. de Pugh said, the Senator's election would be "no panacea" for ending what the Minutemen view as a Communist threat to the nation because "Liberals" would seek to thwart the new President at every turn.

What is urgently needed, he says in a new recruiting booklet, is more armed Minutemen trained to keep a vigilant eye out for Communist infiltration in their neighborhoods.

"When murdering Communist bands come roaming through your community," the booklet says, "they must not find a lazy, disarmed people waiting like lambs for the slaughter. They must find instead a vigorous and well-armed civilian population."

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